



BACH Radiology

Background

Basset Army Community Hospital was the last major Alaska site after Elmendorf to convert to computed radiography. The modalities converted to CR were Plain CR, Ultra Sound, Computed Tomography (CT) and Fluoroscopy. Bassett ACH was designed to support teleradiology spokes at Eielson AFB, Fort Greeley, and the Kamish Troop Medical Clinic (TMC) on Fort Wainwright. Eielson AFB and the Kamish TMC both have Fuji Computed Radiography systems. Ft Greeley is supported with a film digitizer.

Data transfer from the spokes to BACH is through the shared T-1 line presently supporting the Composite Health Care System (CHCS). The Kamish clinic connection will eventually be connected to BACH through a fiber link.

Organization

COL. Steven A. Greenwell, MC - Commander
MAJ. Michael Citrone – Chief, Department of Radiology
Jim Francoise – Project Manager, Pacific Regional Program Office

Mission Statement - Convert BACH, Eielson AFB, FT Wainwright TMC and Ft. Greeley from a film-based operation to a digital environment.

Goals and Objectives -

Objectives - Convert BACH and its area clinics to digital radiography by November 1998.

Goals: Complete the design of the PACs system.

Identify useable components of the excess VA Tacoma equipment.

Identify and purchase additional GE equipment.

Install LAN by 1 July 1998.

Install equipment by September 1998.

Conduct Acceptance Testing (AT) Jan 1999.

Declare the system operational by February 1999.

Current Status

Primary Accomplishments-

1. Secured VA Tacoma equipment from the Joint Imaging Technology Program Office (JITPO).
2. Preliminary design completed by Mis-Labs.
3. Installation completed in October 1998.
4. Acceptance Testing started on 20 October.

5. AT Completed and systems accepted and declared operational in January 1999.

Project Timelines-

1. LAN completed by 1 July 1998.
2. Systems installation to began September 1998.
3. Begin Acceptance Testing (AT) by October 20 1998.
4. Begin official clinical use by 31 December 1998.
5. Acceptance system in February 1999.

Strategic Direction –

After the system becomes operational, a study will be conducted to explore the networking of federal facilities in the Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership. Further networking can be accomplished by connecting with facilities in the lower 48 states, namely Madigan AMC and Tripler AMC. Central archiving or data warehousing is also an issue that needs to be studied because it is a central part of the eventual “virtual radiology” environment.

Budget / Financial Status and Information

Funding Requirement: \$2,064,180

Spending plan: See attached budget plan.

Outyear Funding: BACH is expected to program for out-year funding of the MDIS system. Akamai is only fiscally responsible through the first year. All maintenance cost and cost of future systems upgrade are to be planned for and purchased by BACH and its clinics.

Business Associations

Corporate Partnerships:

GE Medical Systems
Dejarnette
Fuji Medical Systems U.S.A., INC.
Mis Labs / Informatech, INC.

Government Partnerships

Joint Information Technology Program Office (JITPO)

Project Security

System Security- The system is protected through the use of usernames and passwords. The systems administrator will maintain the list of authorized users.

Standards compliance measures: All attempts have been made to comply with all applicable standards.

Summary:

BACH and its supported clinics (Wainwright Troop Medical Clinic (TMC), Eielson AFB and Ft. Greeley) were converted from plain film to computed radiography (CR) by November 1998. Equipment from Tacoma VA was augmented with new equipment from GE, Dejarnette and Fuji. Funding was provided by Project Akamai for the installation and first year operation. BACH is expected to program and fund for all operational costs for the out-years. BACH is an integral part of the Alaska Virtual Radiology Environment (VRE) and is also central to the telemedicine implementation in the region.